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450118-03186**IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

1. (Currently Amended) A transmitter for selectively transmitting a non-copy protected content signal or a copyright protected processed content signal to a connected receiver, comprising:

transmission processing means for transferring a content signal or selectively processing copyright protection on a content signal and then transferring the processed content signal for copyright protection, thereby producing a copyright protected processed content signal;

logic means for determining by an authentication process whether a connected receiver is based on a specification including operable to function in accordance with copyright protection encryption technology for said copyright protection through an authentication process; and

transmission controlling means for holding information indicating the connected receiver which does not have a function enabling copying of those receivers that are not enabled to copy content by using either the content signal or the copyright protected processed content signal transferred from the transmission processing means and for controlling output of the signal to be transferred from the transmission processing means transmitted by the transmitter according to whether or not information indicating the connected receiver which is connected to the transmission processing means is included in the held information, such that said non-copy protected content signal is transmitted if said connected receiver is not enabled to copy content.

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2. (Currently Amended) A transmitter as set forth in claim 1,
wherein said transmitter comprises a protection detecting means for determining if said content is copyright protected; and

wherein said ~~transmission control~~ controlling means ~~transfers~~ controls the transmitted signal to be a copyright protected content signal ~~from said transmission processing means when~~ said protection detecting means determines that said content is copyright protected ~~and transfers~~ and to be a non-copyright protected content signal regardless of the result of decision at the determination by said protection detecting means when it is ~~determined that said~~ information indicating the connected receiver ~~connected to said transmission processing means~~ is included in said held information.

3. (Currently Amended) A transmitter as set forth in claim 2,
wherein said ~~transfer~~ transmission controlling means monitors for a change in connection of the receiver connected to said ~~transmission processing means~~ transmitter while ~~transferring~~ transmitting a non-copy protected content signal of ~~copyright protected content~~ without ~~providing copyright protection and controls to control~~ said ~~transmission processing means~~ transmitter so as not to ~~transfer~~ transmit a non-copyright non-copy protected content signal when it detects that ~~the connection has been changed~~ a change in the connected receiver is detected.

4. (Original) A transmitter as set forth in claim 3,
wherein said transmission controlling means monitors for a change in connection of said receiver by a hot plug detection function or plug and play function.

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5. (Currently amended) A transmitter as set forth in claim 3,

wherein said transmission controlling means ~~suspends the transfer of the non-copyright protected content signal or transfers~~ transmits a copyright protected processed content signal instead of the ~~non-copyright non-copy~~ protected content signal so that said ~~non-copyright non-copy~~ protected content signal is not ~~transferred~~ transmitted.

6. (Original) A transmitter as set forth in claim 1,

wherein said transmission controlling means holds information indicating said receiver in a tamper-proof updateable manner.

7. (Currently Amended) A ~~signal transfer~~ transmission method for selectively transmitting a non-copyright protected content signal or a copyright protected content signal to a connected receiver, said method comprising the steps of:

holding in a transmitter information indicating receivers that are not having the function of being able to receive a content signal enabled to copy content of a received content signal;

deciding by an authentication process whether or not a connected receiver is based on a specification including operable to function in accordance with copyright protection encryption technology for said copyright protection through an authentication process; and

controlling the output of the transmitted signal to be a non-copyright protected content signal or a copyright protected content signal at the transmitter according to whether or not information indicating the connected receiver is included in the held information.

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8. (Currently Amended) A signal ~~transfer~~ transmission method as set forth in claim 7,
further comprising the steps of

~~determining whether to provide copyright protection for said content is using copyright~~
protected to produce said copyright protected content signal and

~~transferring transmitting said copyright non-copyright protected content signal even~~
~~when determining it is determined that the said content is copyright protected and receiving said~~
~~non-copyright protected content signal regardless of whether said content is copyright protected~~
~~when determining that said information indicating the connected receiver is included in said held~~
information.

9. (Currently Amended) A signal ~~transfer~~ transmission method as set forth in claim 8,
further comprising the steps of

monitoring for a change in connection of the connected receiver while transferring
transmitting a non-copyright protected content signal; of copyright protected content without
providing copyright protection and

prohibiting the transfer transmission of said non-copyright protected content signal when
detecting that the connection has been changed a change in the connected receiver is detected.

10. (Currently Amended) A signal ~~transfer~~ transmission method as set forth in claim 9,
comprising wherein said monitoring step comprises monitoring for a change in connection of
said receiver by a hot plug detection function or plug and play function.

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11. (Currently Amended) A signal transfer transmission method as set forth in claim 9, ~~comprising wherein suspending the transfer of the non-copyright protected content signal or transferring a copyright protected content signal is transmitted instead of the non-copyright non-copyright~~ protected content signal so as to prohibit the ~~transfer~~ transmission of said non-copyright protected content signal.

12 - 45. (Canceled)